

## THE SPRING STYLES.

Simplicity in Dress the Rule for Young Girls.

SEASON'S MODES FAVOR THEM

Fashions Well Adapted to Maidens in Their Teens.

The Heroine of the Coat Par Excellence for Them—A Plain Tailor Suit in Some Serviceable Material Needed—Skirts Plain and Plaited—Matter of the Petticoat—The Street Frocks and the Dresser Gowns—Hues Getting Popular as Summer Draws Near—Linen a Prime Favorite Among Girls—Coat and Skirt Costumes—Laces, Embroideries and Other Trimmings.

The young girl who has just made her formal bow to society or is not yet quite old enough for that ceremony is a more important factor in both the world of society and the world of fashion than she was. If smartly dressed to-day,



OF DARK HUE.

she is never over-dressed. Scrupulous care is given to the details of her outfit and the simplicity of her attire is the result of fine art.

Even when she is dressed without regard to money or trouble her wardrobe does not offend the laws of good taste by violating the rule of girlish simplicity. The lavishness is displayed in fineness of material, distinctness of hand work and profusion of supply.

This season the modes are particularly suitable for the young person—or, at least, many of the modes are. The redingote is not a girlish garment, the heavy Irish laces are for the older women, the rich brocade and flowered silks, the heavy paillette trimmings, the close fitting pompadour bodices and many other ideas exploited by the fashion makers just now are not for the girls; but on the other hand there are girlish modes galore.

Almost all the sheer, shimmering silken stuffs, the soft lightweight woolsens, the dainty laces and cottons are suitable for the young girl's frocks. If made according to accepted ideas of appropriateness, and the full skirts, the elbow sleeves, the Dutch neck or demi-decolletage, the shallow guimpes and undersleeves, the ribbon trimmings, the growing simplicity of skirt—all these are notions adaptable to the girl well along in her teens.

The bolero in one form or another is the coat par excellence for the young girl, but short sacque coats, short coats fitted in the back and loose in front, Norfolk coats and various modifications of the Russian blouse idea, with tassets or skirts, are all shown in youthful skirt and coat costumes. Occasionally a girl's height and lines positively demand a half length or three-quarters coat, but often the bolero is more becoming, and the short coat unquestionably comports more attractively with the inseparable ankle length skirt.

A plain tailor suit in some serviceable material and color is one of the first items to be considered in planning a girl's wardrobe, and while this costume may be chic it positively must be simple.

The invisible check, or preferably plaid suitings, the new soft serges, covert, chevot, Panama and homespun are all desirable materials for such a frock, and though no one could call blue serge novel there is no material more serviceable, practical and becoming for the girl's general utility skirt and coat. Original details may rescue such a frock from commonplaceness, but if well cut and made it will



OF SOFT SILK.

not seem commonplace, despite its lack of novelty.

The Parisian dressmakers appreciate this fact, and season after season bring out models in plain dark blue or herringbone serge, trim, severe, but showing the latest work in regard to line, and usually

distinguished by some small touch of smartness such as the Parisian dressmaker can achieve.

Some particularly good models of this type just brought over are in dark blue herringbone serge and in the dark blue and green check suitings. They have circular skirts with seam down the middle front and a deep plaited flounce trims the bottom.

The coat is a bolero, beautifully cut and strapped, and loose in front over a rather broad fitted girdle belt of the material. In the back two straps continue

yet having the advantage over silk, in that they may be tubbed and wear extremely well, are excellent petticoats for wear with dark street frocks or morning frocks.

Petticoats of soft finish taffeta with multitudinous platings or flouncings are always in order with the street frock and wear much better than the stiff taffeta petticoat ever did, but these soft taffeta petticoats, if skimpily, offer little support for the skirt bottom. Occasionally a dust ruffle of some stiff, firm stuff is set under the ruffles of soft silk, and this is a good expedient where ample silk flouncings are

deep tucks, and with short loose boleros, whose elbow sleeves are bell shaped and slashed up the outside. Some dainty and effective collar finish in embroidery and contrasting color gives individuality to the coat, and with the costume is worn one of the delightful sheer lingerie blouses trimmed with lace and hand embroidery.

Color, fineness of material and jaunty simplicity of line give these frocks cachet, and the blouse, in its interest and daintiness may give a note of elegance without detracting from the youthful quality of the costume. One frock of this type sketched for this page was in light blue pongee, trimmed in flat bands of natural blue pongee and touches of embroidery in shaded blues; and another shown in the same shop and very like in design was of a light blue shade, trimmed in ecru line crash, embroidered in dull tones.

The blues are coming into their own as the summer draws near, just as they always assert themselves, no matter what triumphs may have been predicted for other colors. No other dark color is as cool as blue, none combines so well with all other colors, none is so generally becoming and so merciful to a complexion burned and browned and roughened by summer sun and wind. So the eternal fitness of things decrees that blue shall always be a popular summer color, and no exception is made this season.

All the blue tones, delft, Saxon and Sèvres blue, the soft dull tones once known as goblin, the pastel blues, the light blue oisil, the inevitable way—all are put forward, and all are welcomed.

The willow, almond, chartreuse and bronze greens, French rose, a long line of browns, yellows and buffe, the natural

coat sleeves. These coats usually button in double breasted fashion, with large pearl buttons and are strapped and heavily stitched.

The skirt is gored and strapped, or plaited



OF LAVENDER CLOTH.

in some severe way, but any plaited skirt drives the ordinary laundress to despair and failure, and the plain gored skirts look



in tails below the coat line and button to the girdle.

The sleeve is a moderate coat sleeve, and the only trimming, aside from the strapping and small dark blue pearl buttons, is a severely striped little waistcoat line and flat collar finish of white pique.

In place of the circular skirt with plaiting flounce, which seems to have pleased French fancy, some models of the same general class as that just described have a plain circular skirt with some flat braid on or strap trimming or tucks at the bottom, and others, still circular, are plaited in alternate narrow box plaits and side plaits over the hips on either side of a plain front breadth. *Plus de religieuses* or *minus* tucks finish the bottom of a large percentage of these plaited skirts.

One sees too, skirts plaited all around, but the skirt and the skirt with broad box plait front and side plaits all around, which were the first plaited skirts to win approval, have become common and been misshapen until they have lost caste somewhat, and the more irregular platings of circular cut are preferred.

There is, however, a narrow box plait



OF FLOWERED MATERIAL.

skirt of thirty-eight gores, which fits closely around the hips and attains great fullness at the bottom and which is well liked for the lightweight woolen walking skirt.

All of these skirts are unlined, but great attention should be paid to the choice of the petticoat which is to hold out the soft unlined skirt. There is much in the cut of a skirt, but even the most irreproachable in cut will not take on correct flare and live up to its opportunities unless the petticoat under it does its duty, and the fashion in which the girl's skirt hangs often makes or mars the smartness of her appearance.

The lingerie petticoats of heavy linen with flounces of open work or blind embroidery on the linen are very satisfactory for everyday wear if well cut and made, and are more serviceable and less expensive than sheer lingerie petticoats, lace and embroidery trimmed.

They come not only in white, but in the natural-linen shades and dull blues, and these, still less easily than white,

too expensive. Pretty petticoats, not high in price, are made from the checked taffetas in white and color, and the tartan plaids are favorite materials for petticoats intended for youthful wearers.

For sheer stuffs, dress skirts less severe in line are often used, the skirt being shirred into the waistband and falling free from there or held closely over the hips by shirings or little tucks or plaits, flounces or frills being used to trim the bottom. Even in such frocks, however, the flat trimming is used quite as often as the flounce.

Inset bands of lace or embroidery separated by groups of tucks, medallions or motifs inset above a hem, bands of ribbon, groups of deep tucks and all other flat trimmings not too ornate or pretensions to be girlish are popular.

A band or bands of beautiful flowered ribbon set in with open work stitching or between bands of narrow lace insertion trim some sheer frocks effectively, and similar ribbon is used for girdle or sash and for knots upon the blouse, or perhaps is set into a berth. Ribbon bretelles are also used in many dainty ways.

And that reminds us that the bretelle or suspender frock is coming to the front rather conspicuously—too conspicuously perhaps to retain the favor of the fastidious women who shun everything much in evidence in the realm of ready-made attire. Still some of these bretelle costumes are very charming and have a simplicity and quaintness that recommend them for youthful wearers. Shot silk, usually in the sheer glaucé qualities, is much liked for these frocks, but the fine checked silks and plain taffetas are used, and the same models are copied in laces, &c. Many variations are rung upon the shape and arrangement of the



TRIMMED WITH PERFORATED EMBROIDERY.

bretelles, and some frocks show skirt and girdle made in one, though a separate pointed girdle and skirt are the rule.

Charming costumes in pongee, voile and other street frock materials of somewhat dressy character are made with full skirts, finished at the bottom with three

linen and pongee and mode and biscuit shades and all the delicate pinks are modish and suitable for the young girl. The delicious pinkish lilacs too may be worn by her, but the heavier violets and plum shades are, for some reason, never considered youthful.

Some of the banana yellows, buffs, and corn colors are delightful in voile, cologne, sheer silks and wash stuffs, and lovely frocks are made up in these colors, softened by creamy laces or embroideries. A buff lawn morning frock pictured among the simple tub frocks of the central group was a deliciously cool and pretty thing for hot days.

The neck was cut slightly low and round to show a sheer lingerie guimpe and was bordered by a band of white embroidered linen, from whose lower edge emerged a little frill of buff lawn. This band was cut in one with straps running down from each shoulder to points below the armholes, and these straps, too, were edged with lawn frills. Cuffs were of embroidered linen with a lawn frill for border, and the unusual though simple trimming of this blouse gave the frock much originality.

Linen is a prime favorite with girls as with their elders, and the show are full of attractive linen frocks at prices ranging from a sum very reasonable to one that would seem extravagant to the average mother.

A tailored coat and skirt of linen is a practical thing if thoroughly shirred before making and well tailored, though the cheap coat and skirt suits of linen are likely to be distressing objects after their first tubbing.

Tailors who cater to exclusive trade are making up severely tailored suits of linen with rather short reefer like coats, semi-fitting in the back, straight in front and finished with plain coat collar and

better in the long run. Some of these linen suits in red have collar and cuffs in dull blue or red or green linen and linen spots to match are supplied; but, on the whole all the one tone costumes are the smartest.

A sheer lingerie blouse adds a contrasting note of pliancy and daintiness to such a linen frock and the general effect is better than that of many more elaborate but less knowing costumes.

Short sacque boleros are features of other

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linen frocks and these, too, may be severely tailored, but are more often trimmed with embroidery and have fanciful short slashed sleeves showing the sheer sleeve of the blouse worn under the coat. The embroidered collar and cuffs, bordered with stitched linen bands, which appeared upon a model sketched here were an excellent trimming idea for such a coat.

Of shirtwaist frocks in linen there is no end, and many of the prettiest are fashioned from robe patterns, embroidered in open work or English embroidery. In very fine material and design these, of course, come high, but surprisingly good patterns may be found at moderate prices.

A pretty frock of this sort shown in the central group was of fine white linen, and one may run all the gamut from the simplest and finest linen to the coarsest and roughest of crash, though the open work embroidery is best upon firm fine material.

Open work embroidery upon lawn, mull, batiste, &c., is also extremely fashionable for femininity of all ages, and some of the loveliest of the frocks for young girls have full skirts made from deep flouncing of such embroidery, while the blouse is of plain stuff with trimming of narrow embroidery



THE WASHABLE SUIT.

matching that used for the skirt. Other beautiful sheer frocks are of the allover openwork embroideries on sheer material, trimmed in hand insertions and flouncings of corresponding embroidery, with touches of Valenciennes lace to soften the outlines and Valenciennes for guimpes and collar.

The plain allover eyelet embroideries upon very fine but firm linen makes charming frocks over white or color, and the allover open work embroideries in batistes and lawn are used for some of the very smartest of the sheer lingerie blouses.

These embroidery blouses have, as a rule, little yokes and collars and long close cuffs of Valenciennes insertion and lace, the line of joining between embroidery and lace being covered by a little frill or ruche of the narrow Valenciennes, or by a very narrow band of plain white material stitched flatly on both edges. On the simple allover eyelet embroidery elaborate open work embroidery insertions or bands are used as trimming, with Valenciennes at throat and wrists.

The open work embroidery, though so popular, has not pushed blind embroidery to the wall. Little frocks of sheerest lawn embroidered in trailing delicate garlands, vines and blossoms, and with additional trimming of fine Valenciennes, are immensely chic, and the heavy raised embroideries have their place.

One of the sketches shows the use of this heavy bold embroidery on a shirt waist frock of plain white linen, with plaited skirt and blouse and with a yoke heavily embroidered as its only elaboration. The model was distinctly successful, as was another white linen frock, also among the sketches, with its square cut neck and fronts bordered by a plain band of soft green linen and its cuffs trimmed with green linen.

The square cut or round cut or V shaped blouse neck, showing a little white guimpe, is almost inevitable on the season's gowns, from gingham to silk mousseline, and the fashion is a becoming one. A gown of ecruette in peach blossom pink had this guimpe in Valenciennes lace, cut down to

Waists, Gowns, Tailored Suits. EASTER SUGGESTS THE HOLLY

10 West 23d Street, near 5th Avenue.

leave the throat free, and bands of pink satin ribbon with a little lace to add them on the back to the trimmings of the unpretentious blouse and the full skirt.

Nothing could have been simpler, yet the frock was delightful—more so than the more expensive and elaborate frock of exquisite flowered silk mousseline with yoke and plaited effect of lace bordered by velvet bands outside of which lace was fitted. This latter frock was, however, a most alluring and debatable one.

The worst blouses is still applied to all separate waists and to all bodices not in coat form or very close fitting; but the blouse in its pronounced form is gone. The young girl, however, still retains the bodice blousing slightly, its lines being better adapted to the average girlish figure than the tight bodice lines which demand pronounced curves and artistic corsetings.

The blouse, all that is left of it, is higher, and the girdle is wide upon most youthful evening and dressy frocks, and the shirt waist or morning frocks are drawn down under a belt without definite blousing.

## THE MODERN WOMAN.

"Where's the other girl?" is a question frequently put by subway travellers to the subway newsgirls all along the route.

"Oh, she's up in Harlem," or "Down to the Battery," will be the reply, for there has been a general shake-up of the newsgirls and all of them have been changed about.

"I don't like this a little bit," exclaimed one of them the other day "I had just got to know my customers and they put me down here. Now, I must begin all over again."

It's certainly discouraging. Why did they do it? Don't ask me. But I do miss my old stand. I suppose to most persons all subway stations look alike, but there is as much of a choice in location here as outside.

In spite of the ban put upon the round garter by physicians and physical culturists, Dame Fashion is bringing it into popularity again. Such garters may be unhygienic, but when their buckles come in the form of locket, within which there is place for the likeness of one's best beloved, what woman will join the procession and invest in a pair.

From \$8 they run up to \$300 in cost, according to the material and setting. If of silver, then a simple pair can be bought at a smart jeweler's for the former price. But if the locket happens to be of precious yellow metal and solid at that it will cost \$40 at the very least. If precious stones ornament the exterior then it may cost \$300.

Heart shaped buckles are the most popular. The heart opens into the same as a locket and within is a small circular space for a photograph. Monograms and initials often decorate the outside.

Women buyers in the stores are as thick around the ruche counter as flies about a molasses jug. Last season it was the stock counter, but this season ruches are the vogue and miles of them are daily sold in the stores.

Last season the smartest women wore ruching. This season they pin their faith to a simple ruffle of real lace with which their lingerie waist is trimmed.

In the best Fifth Avenue shops where dainty shirtwaists are sold, the collar is attached to the waist itself, is built very high, coming well up under the ears and is finished with bit of old Valenciennes. Many of them look simple, but that is where the uninitiated is deceived. It is the simplicity that only money can buy, and many of these wash waists run up as high as \$100.

And what is more, women buy them.

To improve their powers of observation the girls in a fashionable private school of the city were recently asked by the teacher to imagine themselves some inanimate object, and without naming it to describe it and let the others guess what it might be.

One girl of 14 described a certain article as follows:

"I am short and fat. Have two arms but no legs, an red in the face and am full every night."

No one could guess the answer so she had to answer the riddle herself. It was a paper basket.

The same pupil the other day gave the definition of eucharist as "one who plays euche," and that of pinnacle as the "fin of a fish."

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